

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 7 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice and thus the objection to the drawings is rendered moot.

The specification has been amended in such manner as to overcome the objection to the specification noted in the Office Action.

Claim 1 has been amended in such manner as to distinguish applicant's invention patentably over Udagawa, Gorsica and Jelinek. As amended, claim 1 recites the plurality of profile sumps running along the outer perimeters having the shape of the outer perimeter and being spaced from the at least one pass-through opening and being unsymmetrical relative to the pass-through opening, in combination with at least one inward profile sump spaced inwardly from and unsymmetrical and relative to the outer perimeter sumps in circumferentially surrounding relation to the at least one pass-through opening and having the shape of the associated pass-through opening. This combination is neither taught nor suggested by the cited references. It is thus believed that claim 1 distinguishes applicant's invention patentably over the cited and should be allowed.

The remaining claims depend on claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons.

It is believed that this application now is in condition for allowance. Further and favorable action is requested.


The Patent Office is authorized to charge or refund any fee deficiency or excess to Deposit Account No. 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 1, 2005

Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **Amendment** for U.S. Serial No.: 10/803,486 filed March 18, 2004 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on February 1, 2005.


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